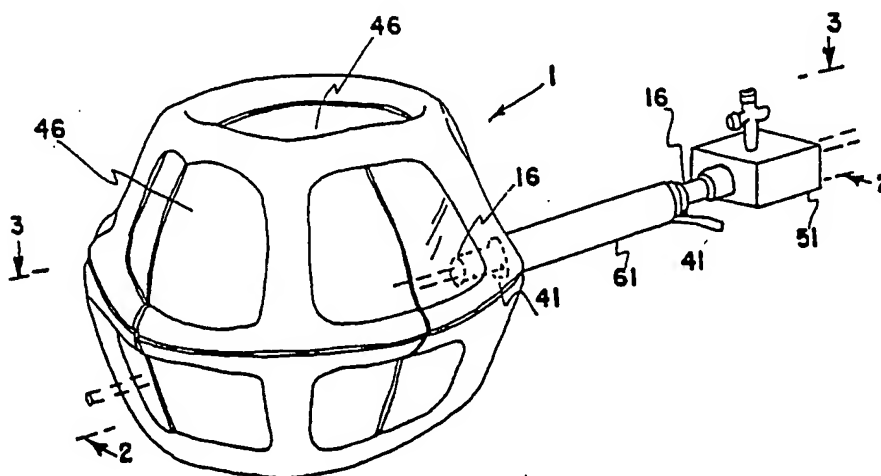




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(54) Title: **ENDOSCOPIC INFLATABLE RETRACTION DEVICE, METHOD OF USING, AND METHOD OF MAKING**

(57) Abstract

A family of retraction devices for use in laparoscopic surgery. The retraction device is introduced into a body cavity in a collapsed condition, and, once in place, is expanded to an expanded condition to retract an organ. Access to the tissue to be treated is provided through the retraction device. Most of the retraction devices are inflatable, having a main inflatable chamber, a means for selectively inflating the main inflatable chamber (11) into an expanded condition, and a maintaining means (e.g., 31) for maintaining the main inflatable chamber in its expanded condition after an aperture (54) is pierced in the main chamber to provide access to the tissue. Use of the retraction devices to perform surgical procedures in the abdomen, lung, pericardium, and skull, and in hernia repair, is described, as are methods of making such devices.